

Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SS-15

SP-02 NSC-05 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5698

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG

SUBJ: PROPOSAL BEFORE COMMITTEE OF CITY COUNCIL TO CHANGE NAME
OF UNITED NATIONS PLAZA TO ZION SQUARE

1. PARKS COMMITTEE OF NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO MEET
AT 10:00 HOURS ON FEBRUARY 5 TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL TO CHANGE
SEGMENT OF STREET NAME OF UNITED NATIONS PLAZA TO ZION SQUARE.
CHANGE WOULD AFFECT WEST SIDE OF UNITED NATIONS PLAZA BETWEEN
45 AND 46 STREETS ONLY (NEXT TO USUN AND FACING UN HEADQUARTERS).

2. CONCERN OVER POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSAL HAS BEEN
COMMUNICATED TO PARKS COMMITTEE BY OWNERS AND TENANTS OF
BUILDINGS WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED. THEY INCLUDE NEW YORK CITY
COMMISSION FOR UNITED NATIONS AND CONSULAR CORPS, AND
INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION. OTHERS IN BLOCKS
NEARBY (UN ASSOCIATION, UN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION) ARE ALSO
EXPRESSING OPPOSITION.

3. USUN HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION
AND OTHER NEW YORK CITY OFFICIALS IN AN ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF
ACTION. AMB WHITE HAS SPOKEN WITH JEWISH LEADERS, AMB
SHARAF (JORDAN) AND AMB ELIAV (ISRAEL). ARAB REPRESENTATIVES
ARE MEETING THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS SITUATION AND AMB WHITE
URGED AMB SHARAF THAT THEY MAKE NO PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH
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MIGHT MAKE ACTION BY PARKS COMMITTEE INEVITABLE. MRS.

FRANCES LOEB, NEW YORK CITY COMMISSIONER, HAS URGED PARKS
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO DELAY VOTE BUT FEELS HE WILL NOT.
AMB MOYNIHAN IS SENDING LETTER TO CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT O'DWYER
IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSAL.

4. IF PARKS COMMITTEE ACTS TOMORROW, BILL MUST GO TO FULL
COUNCIL WHERE PASSAGE IS CONSIDERED INEVITABLE. ALTHOUGH MAYOR
COULD VETO, IT IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY UNLIKELY HE WOULD FEEL
ABLE TO DO SO.

5. WE WILL ADVISE DEPARTMENT OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AS
THEY OCCUR.
MOYNIHAN

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